

Lothian NHS Board

Office of the Chair and Chief Executive  
Waverley Gate  
2-4 Waterloo Place  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3EG  
Telephone 0131 536 9000  
www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk



Ms Kezia Dugdale  
The Scottish Parliament  
M1.07  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

Date 30 January 2019  
Your Ref  
Our Ref TPD/CW/GS

Enquiries to Tim Davison  
Extension 35807  
Direct Line 0131 465 5807  
Email chief.executive@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk  
EA elaine.watters@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk

Dear Ms Dugdale

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 17 January 2019. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

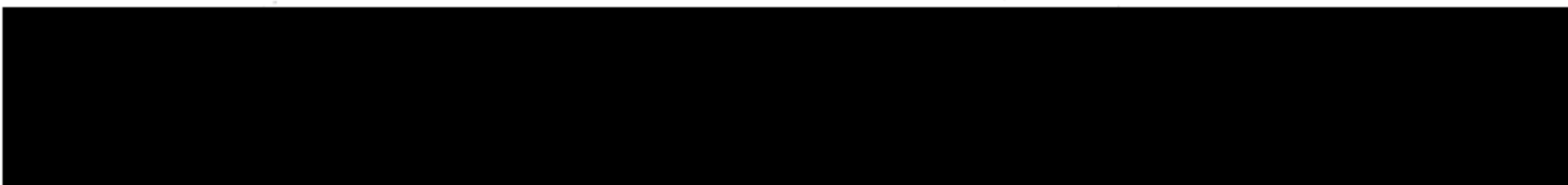
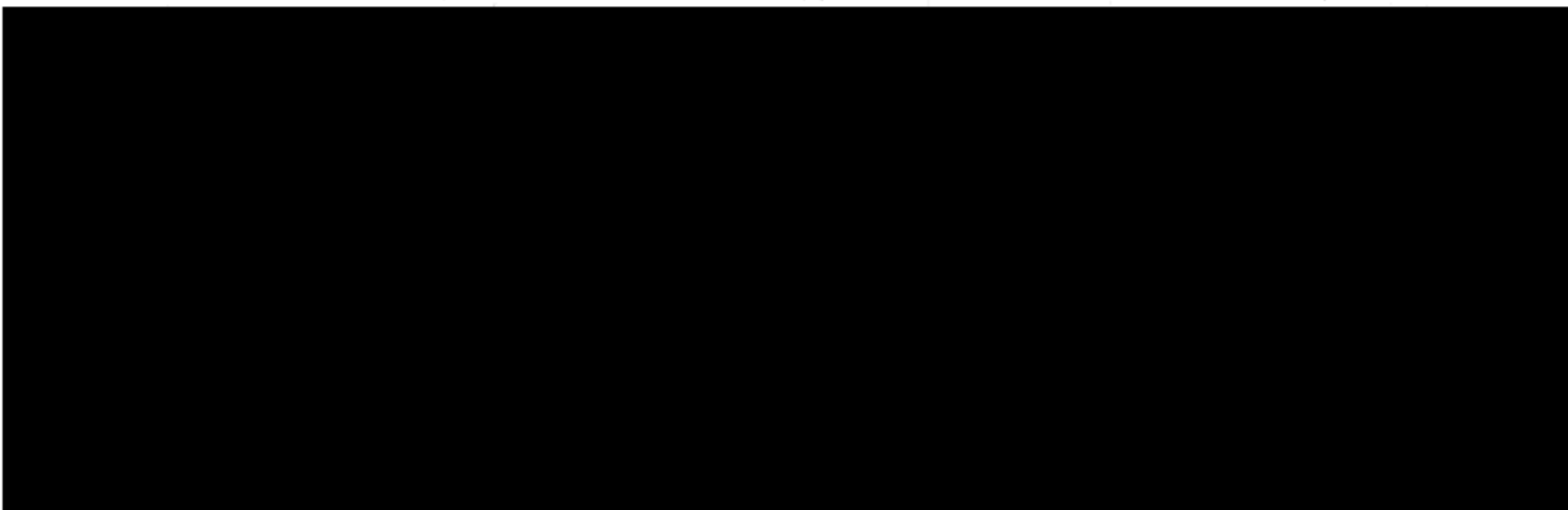
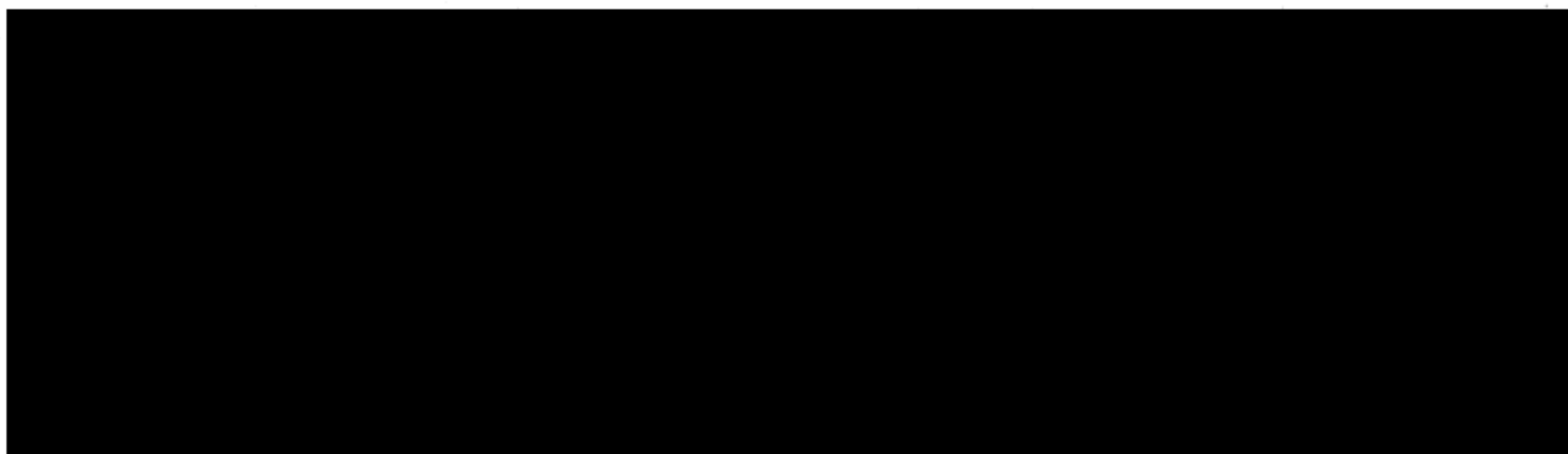
This morning in the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh (RIE), there are 93 patients in the hospital who would be better off, not in hospital, but in their own home or in a homely place and who cannot get there for many reasons - because of lack of more appropriate

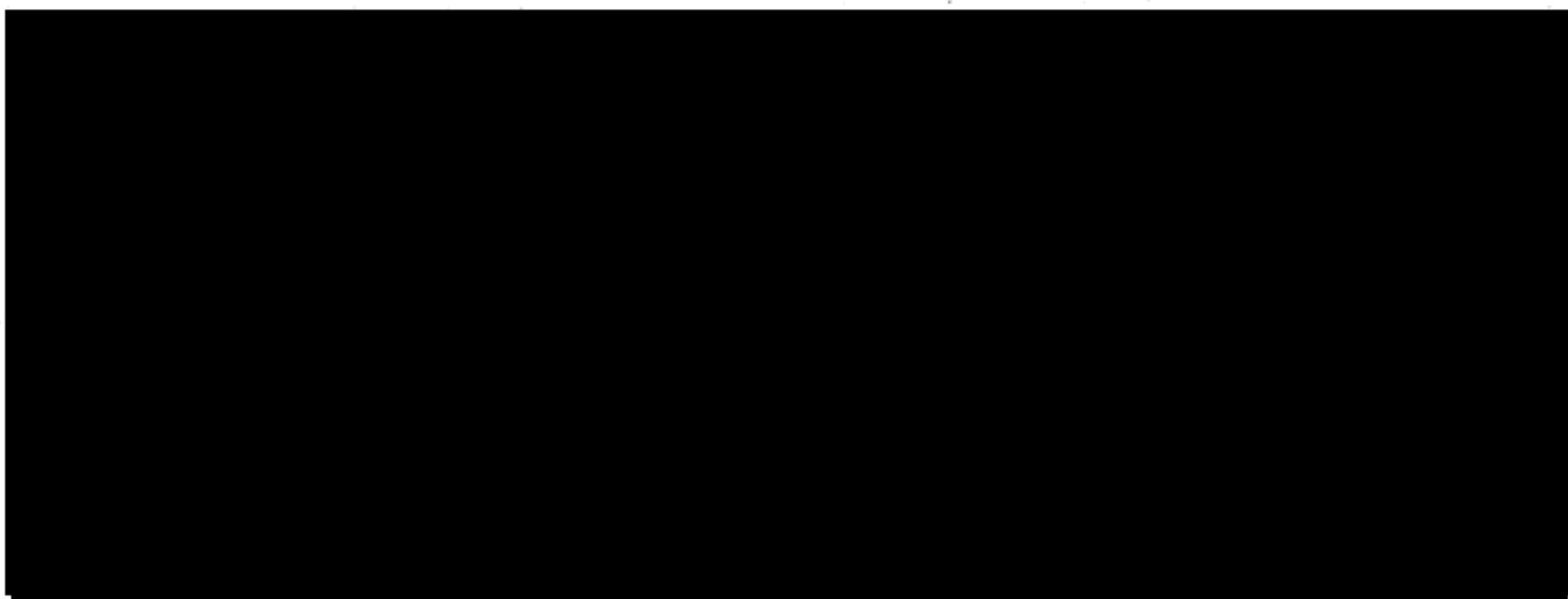


Headquarters  
Waverley Gate  
2-4 Waterloo Place  
Edinburgh EH1 3EG

Chair Brian G. Houston  
Chief Executive Tim Davison  
Lothian NHS Board is the common  
name of Lothian Health Board

health care placement, a lack of Nursing or care home places, difficulty in accessing a required package of care to enable a return home, delays while waiting for necessary equipment or home modifications, delays in accessing social work, or delays in securing guardianship. For a hospital the size of the RIE, the number of patients remaining in hospital when they do not need to be there, is equivalent to three whole wards and is significantly impacting on our ability to manage the flow of patients through the hospital. It can impact on our ability to see and assess patients promptly; it delays access to a bed quickly within the agreed 4 hour target; it is contributing to short-notice cancellation of planned elective surgery resulting in disruption and distress to patients and families. All of this presents a burden on patients and their carers/ families and reduces the quality of their experience.





Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Davison', written in a cursive style.

**TIM DAVISON**  
Chief Executive

